

“The results of the recent election show that people support projects that will make our transportation safer and more efficient. Our job is to get the projects done on time and within budget.”

By defeating Initiative 912 in November, voters gave the go-ahead to the \$8.5 billion transportation package that we moved out of the Legislature earlier this year. Now, we can move ahead with projects that repair bridges, make highways safer all across the state and improve the efficiency of the state transportation system. The investment we are making in transportation will save lives, move people and help keep our state economy strong.

I’m on top of my responsibility to see to it that the state Department of Transportation does the job right. The department has developed a good track record for project management, but I’ve targeted the agency in our GMAP (Government Management Accountability and Performance) program, which is examining how the department can do even better.

My Budget for Improving Transportation Is:

STRATEGIC

Expands and improves Washington’s transportation system to accommodate a growing population and expanding economy. Keeps people and goods moving and ensures a healthy business climate.

RESPONSIBLE

Provides funding to fix dangerous bridges and highways, including the Alaskan Way Viaduct, the SR 520 bridge across Lake Washington, Interstate 90 at Snoqualmie Pass and accident-prone corridors across Washington.

ACCOUNTABLE

Earmarks funding for specific transportation projects, with clear expectations of how the funding is to be used. Takes steps to ensure that projects are completed on time and within budget.

BY THE NUMBERS : Washington has under way 557 projects to maintain existing highways and 254 to improve motorist safety.

Governor Gregoire's Supplemental Budget for Transportation

Launches Transportation Partnership Act

Takes steps to ensure accountability in 16-year, transportation improvement plan.

Independent experts assist the state Department of Transportation in ensuring that the largest construction program in the agency's history delivers projects on time and within budget. *\$3.5 million Motor Vehicle Account*

Washington Partnership Act provides a phased-in gasoline tax increase of 9.5 cents, plus motor vehicle fees, to raise \$8.5 billion over 16 years to provide funding for:

- 30 at-risk structures including Alaskan Way Viaduct and SR-520. Funding is also provided to strengthen support columns for more than 190 bridges located in moderate-to high-risk seismic zones. *\$3 billion*
- 106 safety projects that are expected to reduce the number of accidents by 25 percent (1,100 injuries per year). Funding is focused on those locations where accidents occur most frequently. *\$279 million*
- 69 projects to eliminate choke points and ease congestion. The traffic delays created by choke points will be reduced by adding lanes, improving interchanges and by constructing high-occupancy-vehicle lanes. Improvements at choke points are expected to reduce the number of injury accidents by 2,000 each year. *\$3 billion*
- 8 projects that improve passenger rail service. Rail commuters can expect better on-time performance and reduced travel times between cities. *\$94.8 million*
- 35 projects that improve the movement of freight to Washington's ports. *\$542 million*
- 21 environmental projects including projects that remove barriers to migrating salmon, fix and control slides, and reduce roadway runoff. *\$108 million*
- 4 projects for the ferry system including the construction of a new automobile/passenger ferry and terminal improvements. *\$184.5 million*
- Distributions to local governments and grant programs. Funds will be used for preservation, maintenance, safety improvement and local freight projects. *\$682 million*
- Additional investments in transit grant programs, commute trip reduction tax credits and other investments. *\$622 million*